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Municipal Transportation Agency

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District: 4 - Oakland

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

19TH AVENUE/HIGHWAY 1 TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE PROJECT BEGINS NEXT MONTH

Pedestrian safety and transportation improvements advanced

San Francisco – Next month, construction will begin on the much anticipated pedestrian and motorist safety upgrades along 19th Avenue/Highway 1. The \$4 million first phase will install more visible traffic signal heads, pedestrian countdown signals, enhanced crosswalks and curb ramps at 10 intersections on 19th Avenue. In addition, the traffic signals will be interconnected by fiber optic cables, helping harmonize traffic flow at the speed limit and thus avoiding red light running. A second phase is expected to begin construction this summer. These improvements are meant to increase pedestrian visibility and safety conditions and to improve the efficiency of traffic operations along the corridor.

“Caltrans and the City and County of San Francisco are partnering to address safety on 19th Avenue,” said Bijan Sartipi, Caltrans District 4 Director. “Safety is the number one priority for the Department, and this cooperative effort addresses pedestrian safety needs while efficiently moving motorists through this important corridor.”

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (Authority) and the City of San Francisco's Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) conducted significant planning and sought community input focused on the heavily used corridor, which has been the scene of serious traffic accidents involving pedestrians in recent years.

State legislative representatives have heightened attention for this project.

“Since my days on the Board of Supervisors, we have been fighting for pedestrians on 19th Avenue,” said Senator Leland Yee. “I am pleased that these much needed improvements are coming for this dangerous corridor and I look forward to continuing these efforts through legislation this session to strengthen enforcement and double traffic fines so that we will finally have a safe road for motorists and pedestrians alike.”

“I introduced AB 23 last year so that pedestrians will be safe when walking across 19th Avenue,” said Assembly Majority Whip Fiona Ma. “Caltrans agreed to expedite the installation of



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countdown signals at these 10 dangerous intersections and I am grateful that the Department has acted so quickly."

The project is being jointly funded by the California Department of Transportation and the Authority's Prop K transportation sales tax program. Phase I is expected to be completed in summer 2009.

"I'm pleased that Caltrans, local stakeholders, and city agencies have collaborated to design a project that begins to address the safety concerns of residents," said San Francisco Supervisor Carmen Chu, whose district includes seven of the 10 intersections slated for improvement during the first phase of the project. "Collectively, the city is better served when we recognize that 19th Avenue is not just a state thoroughfare but as a place where people live and share community."

"In addition to the safety improvements this project will bring, 19th Avenue a step closer to reaching its potential as a truly great street," said San Francisco's District Seven Supervisor Sean Elsbernd. "With state-of-the-art technology we can better manage traffic flow, and the appearance and livability of 19th Avenue will improve as well."

The second phase of the improvements is expected to be advertised for bids in spring 2008. The \$8 million project will upgrade 16 additional intersections and also allow remote monitoring and signal coordination along the corridor. The third phase is pending future funding and will include eight intersections and the remaining fiber optic signal interconnection.

During construction, day-time lane closures will be necessary, and traffic delays and detours are to be expected. Motorists are advised to allow for additional travel time.

Phase I Intersections include:

- . 19th Avenue/Crossover Drive/Lincoln Way
- . 19th Avenue/Irving Street
- . 19th Avenue/Judah Street
- . 19th Avenue/Noriega Street
- . 19th Avenue/Quintara Street
- . 19th Avenue/Taraval Street
- . 19th Avenue/Vicente Street
- . 19th Avenue/Eucalyptus Street
- . 19th Avenue/Holloway Avenue
- . 19th Avenue/Junipero Serra Boulevard

In addition to the improvements being made to the roadway as part of the signal upgrade project, the Authority, Caltrans and SFMTA are collaborating on additional pedestrian safety and traffic management improvements that will be implemented as part of a larger transportation plan for 19th Avenue and Park Presidio Boulevard. Improvements being considered include



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enhanced access to bus stops, sidewalk extensions, on-street parking improvements, added landscaping, signal priority for transit vehicles, and real-time transit rider information.

For more information and updates on the 19th Avenue/ Park Presidio project, please visit the following websites:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/19thave>

<http://www.sfcta.org/19th>

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About Caltrans (www.dot.ca.gov/dist4)

Caltrans manages and maintains the state's freeways and highways to improve mobility across California. Safety and accessibility are paramount while ensuring the movement of goods, freight and people. District 4, which covers the nine Bay Area counties, encompasses over 6,500 lane miles of road.

About the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (www.sfcta.org)

Created in 1989, the Authority is responsible for long-range transportation planning for the city, and it analyzes, designs and funds improvements for San Francisco's roadway and public transportation networks. The Authority administers and oversees the delivery of the Prop K half-cent local transportation sales tax program, serves as the designated Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for San Francisco, under state law, and acts as the San Francisco Program Manager for grants from the Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA). The Authority Board consists of the eleven members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, who act as Authority Commissioners. Commissioner Jake McGoldrick is Chairman of the Authority Board, and José Luis Moscovich is the Authority's Executive Director.

About SFMTA

Established by voter proposition in 1999, the SFMTA, a department of the City and County of San Francisco, oversees both the Municipal Railway (Muni) and the Department of Parking and Traffic. With five modes of transit, MUNI has 700,000 passenger boardings each day. Over 35,000 extra vehicles enter San Francisco on any given business day, and rely on DPT to keep the flow of cars, transit vehicles, delivery trucks, pedestrians, and bicycles moving smoothly through the streets.

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